UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/C.7/1994/L.10
3 March 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
Second session
22 February-4 March 1994
Agenda item 8

EFFECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION POLICIES ON THE MINERAL SECTOR (INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF AVAILABLE STUDIES BY CONCERNED ENTITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ON THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT OF EXPLORATION AND MINING, AND REVIEW OF STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGIES DEALING WITH PROCESSING OF MINING WASTES AND TAILINGS)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Neculai Pavlovschi (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations

Effects of environmental protection and conservation policies on the mineral sector (including consideration of available studies by concerned entities of the United Nations system on the impact on the environment of exploration and mining, and review of state-of-the-art technologies dealing with processing of mining wastes and tailings)

The Committee on Natural Resources,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1993/302 of 29 July 1993,

Concerned about the need to ensure that the sustainable development of mineral resources is a continuing objective of host countries in the development of those resources,

Noting the mechanisms to address the management of the environment through both regulatory and new approaches to management and training with respect to technical developments,

Further noting the need to achieve transfer of technology and accommodate innovation and development of clean technology in the mining industry,

1. Takes note with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the effects of changing environmental policy on the world mineral industry; 1/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare for the Committee on Natural Resources at its third session a report that examines key advances in the development and application of state-of-the-art technologies for minimizing environmental degradation caused by mining and processing mineral resources;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to include in that report information on reprocessing wastes and tailings and eliminating the negative ecological consequences of past activities of mineral enterprises.

1/ E/C.7/1994/10.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/C.7/1994/L.11
3 March 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
Second session
22 February-4 March 1994
Agenda item 7

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS IN THE MINERAL SECTOR

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Neculai Pavlovschi (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations

Recommendations on mineral resources for transmission to the Commission on Sustainable Development

The Committee on Natural Resources decides to transmit the following recommendations to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its third session, in 1995, through the Economic and Social Council:

The Committee recommends:

(a) That the Commission on Sustainable Development recognize the need to ensure the sustainable supply of mineral resources as a key issue in its consideration of all four of its critical elements of sustainability 1/ (cross-sectoral cluster A: (1) International cooperation to accelerate sustainable development in developing countries and related domestic policies (chap. 2 of Agenda 21); (2) combating poverty (chap. 3 of Agenda 21); (3) Changing consumption patterns (chap. 4 of Agenda 21); and (4) Demographic dynamics and sustainability (chap. 5 of Agenda 21)) and also as a key element in an integrated approach to the planning and management of land resources (sectoral cluster G, chap. 10 of Agenda 21); 1/

1/ See report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its first session (E/1993/25/Add.1), chap. I, decision A, annex.

(b) That the Commission give particular attention to this issue in the provisional agenda for its third session, in 1995, not only in its consideration of clusters A and G, but also in its consideration of cross-sectoral cluster B (Financial resources and mechanisms (chap. 33 of Agenda 21)); cluster C (Science for sustainable development (chap. 35 of Agenda 21)); and cross-sectoral cluster D (Integrating environment and development in decision-making (chap. 8 of Agenda 21)) and information for decision-making (chap. 40 of Agenda 21); 1/

(c) That the Commission note the need to forge an effective dialogue between the United Nations system and all interested parties, in particular the international mineral industry, in developing new approaches;

(d) That the Commission note the decision of the Committee on Natural Resources to prepare a strategy paper on the above aspects of the key issue of the sustainable supply of mineral resources, which could be made available to the Commission at its third session, in 1995, as a background paper.